

SHINING TIME STATION

EPISODE #3  
"AND THE BAND PLAYED OFF"

Working Draft  
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From characters and series storyline  
created by Britt Allcroft and  
Rick Siggelkow

(FADE IN.)

(THE INFO. DESK. UP POPS MR. C. HE TAKES OUT HIS BATHPLUG AND CHECKS IT AGAINST THE TIME ON THE BIG CLOCK. THE PHONE ON THE TICKET BOOTH COUNTER RINGS. MR. C. REALIZES HE IS ALONE AND HAS TO ANSWER IT. HE POPS OVER TO THE TICKET BOOTH WITH BOTH HANDS, HE TAKES THE RECEIVER AND FLIPS IT OFF THE CRADLE.)

V.O.

Hello... Hello ... is anyone there?

(MR. C. WALKS AROUND TO WHERE IT LANDS.)

MR. C.

Of course someone's here. These phones just don't go around answering themselves, you know.

V.O.

Is Stacy Jones there? May I please speak with her?

MR. C.

You could if she was but she's not so you can't. Perhaps you'd like to continue speaking to me.

*more extended  
word play*

V.O.

This is the Main Office with a very important message: A new train will be stopping at your station today.

MR. C.

A new train! That is important  
news.

— There hasn't been a new train stopping  
here in umpteen years

(STACY ENTERS. SHE COMES OVER.)

MR. C. (cont'd)

... it's the Main Office. A new  
train'll be stopping here.

(SHE TAKES THE PHONE.)

STACY

Hello. Stacy Jones speaking.

...A new express train is going to  
stop here!!!

(SHE IS SUDDENLY FILLED WITH A CHILDLIKE EXCITEMENT.)

STACY (cont'd)

I knew it. I knew our work would  
bring the station back to life.  
...This is what we've been  
waiting for!

(SHE PUTS DOWN THE PHONE IN ORDER TO EXECUTE A GLEEFUL  
SPIN. MATT AND TANYA ENTER. SHE RUSHES TO THEM.)

STACY (cont'd)

A new express train is going to  
stop here.

(IN THE B.G. AUDIO WE CAN MAKE OUT: HELLO ARE YOU THERE?)

(KIDS AD LIB: GOOD, GREAT ETC., HARRY COMES OUT OF HIS WORKSHOP.)

(STACY RUSHES OVER.)

STACY (cont'd)

...Harry, it's happened. They put  
on a new train for us. Another  
train is going to stop at our  
station. And there will probably  
be lots of trains after this one.

HARRY

Well, its about time. When does  
it stop here?

STACY  
(befuddled)

When?...when?

(SHE SUDDENLY REALIZES SHE'S LEFT THE PHONE. SHE  
RUSHES TO IT.)

STACY (cont'd)

Hello...yes, I'm here. ...Yes I'm  
very reliable... When is the  
express train coming?

(SHE BEGINS REPEATING SO AS TO MEMORIZE.)

STACY (cont'd)

...the 1:57 express to Leaky Park,  
Spotsville and Doodlehaven...

(MR. C. IS BELOW COUNTER TOP NOW.)

MR. C.

Don't you want to write this down?

(SHE WAVES FOR HIM TO BE QUIET, SHE CAN'T HEAR.)  
(MR. C. EXITS.)

STACY

Shssss...That'll switch to the  
local track...yes... and the local  
train to Loomkey, Waddley and  
Chubby Cornors changes to the 2:04  
on the express line ... yes, yes,  
... changes at Buttertown changes  
back at Turley ... and straight  
onto Lucy's Leap ... No? ... oh

(SHE IS GETTING CONFUSED.)

STACY (cont'd)

...skips Lucy's Leap and stops at  
Mount Careful... at 2:12 ... Yes,  
Yes.. I think I have it. This is  
so exciting. Thank you.

(SHE HANGS UP. STILL REPEATING TO HERSELF. THEN SEES  
TANYA, MATT AND HARRY. SHE CAN'T CONTAIN HER  
EXCITEMENT AND GIVES ANOTHER JUMP IN THE AIR.)

STACY (cont'd)

I'm so happy!

HARRY

You memorized all of that, did you?

STACY

It's going to be here in less than  
an hour. Oh, we have so much to  
do.

*answer*

(SHE DOES QUICK PACING TRYING TO ORGANIZE HER  
THOUGHTS.)

HARRY

Hold your horses. There's time.

*He doesn't see Mr. C?*

STACY

I can't relax. I have to write  
all this on the schedule...Where  
is the schedule?

(SHE GOES TO SORRY, WRONG DOOR. TBD.)

STACY

Oh, Sorry, wrong door.

(STACY. SHE HAS AN IDEA. SHE GOES TO THE MURAL WHERE  
MATT AND TANYA ARE TALKING TO MR.C.)

STACY

That's what we need, A band! A  
band to greet the new train. Make  
them feel really welcome...

MR. C.

No, what you need is to post the new schedule so the passengers can see the changes... By the way, what's happened to our regular train?

STACY


Oh my goodness! I totally forgot about the regular train.. What was it he said?... Did he say it was going to arrive 20 minutes earlier? Or did he say 20 minutes later. Oh no. I forgot. I'll put down both. That way at least, I'll be half right. No. That doesn't make any sense.

MR. C.

Relax. Calm down. Get a grip on yourself. You're going to wind up making mistakes like my friend Thomas. You don't want to do that. Do you?

STACY

No, no. We can't have any  
mistakes. Let me call them again  
to get it right.



(STACY EXITS.)

MATT AND TAYNA

You said Thomas made mistakes.  
What happened to Thomas?

MR. C.

Oh, all sorts of things. Do you  
really want to know?

KIDS

Yes. Yes.

MR. C.

Really, really want to know?

KIDS

Yes, really, really want to know.

MR. C.

Well then I'll simply tell you.

MATT

Will this take long? Aunt Stacy  
might need us soon.

parent  
gallery



MR. C.

Be patient...that was Thomas'  
problem...Thomas the Tank  
Engine...

(INTO EPISODE #5.)

(MATT AND TANYA JOIN STACY AT INFORMATION DESK. STACY  
IS STARING OFF, PREOCCUPIED.)

(THE KIDS SEE STACY IS LOST IN HER OWN THOUGHTS.)

MATT AND TANYA

Aunt Stacy...

STACY

*Tanya is now calling  
Stacy "Aunt"*

Hmmmmmm...oh hi, I can't talk now,  
kids, I have too much to do...

(ENTER A PASSENGER NAMED SPIKE.)

SPIKE

Excuse me, what time is your  
regular train to Mount Careful?

STACY  
(fishing)

How do you do? Our regular  
train? Let's see, that would  
leave... 20 minutes before the  
hour. Yes, our regular train  
leaves 20 minutes before the  
hour.

(SPIKE CHECKS HIS WATCH.)

SPIKE

Well, I don't have much time. Can  
I get a one way ticket to Mount  
Careful?

STACY

Certainly...if you'd just step  
over to the ticket booth.

(SHE GOES AROUND BEHIND THE TICKET BOOTH AND SELLS HIM  
A TICKET.)

STACY (cont'd)

Here you go.

(HE PAYS HER.)

SPIKE

I had better wait out on the  
platform. Good bye.

(HE EXITS.)

STACY

Now let me think...what else do I  
have to do?...

(OUT FROM THE WORKSHOP COMES HARRY CARRYING THE  
SCHEDULE BOARD.)

HARRY

...Well, one thing we have to do  
is put this back up...

STACY

Oh there it is! Where did you  
find it?

HARRY

Oh, it was back there under a  
whole pile of things. I had to  
fix the hooks.

(HE HANGS IT UP ON THE WALL. THEY BOTH STAND BACK AND  
ADMIRE IT.)

STACY

It's a beauty, isn't it?

HARRY

It'll look a lot better when it  
has some train information on it.

STACY

Exactly! I'll fill that right in.

(HARRY RETURNS TO HIS WORKSHOP. STACY GETS SOME  
CHALK.)

STACY (cont'd)

...Now let's see how did that go?  
Doodlehaven...Chubby Corners... or  
was it Chubbyhaven and Doodle  
Corners?... the express to Waddley  
... no Buttertown...

(SHE STARTS TO UNRAVEL LIKE A CONFUSED CHILD AT A BLACKBOARD. TANYA AND MATT COME OVER.)

MATT

Are you okay, Aunt Stacy?

STACY

...Yes...

TANYA

Can we help?

STACY

...No...yes... I don't know.

(MR. C. APPEARS ON THE DESK TOP.)

MR. C.

Maybe this'll help.

(HE OFFERS HER A PIECE OF PAPER. SHE TAKES THE TINY PAPER AND SQUINTS TO READ IT.)

MR. C. (cont'd)

It's the new schedule with all of  
the changes. I heard you when  
you were on the phone. Remember?

STACY

Oh thanks, you're a real pal...

It's kind of hard to read. The  
writing is a little small.

(STACY REACHES UNDER THE DESK AND TAKES OUT A MAGNIFYING GLASS. NOW SHE CAN READ IT. MR. C POPS OVER TO THE TOP OF THE SCHEDULE BOARD.)

STACY

(Stacy notes some changes, looks up)

Just a couple of changes here...

Kids, I think we're finally in  
business. All we need now is a  
little music. See what's on the  
jukebox.

(TANYA AND MATT TO JUKEBOX. THEY PUT IN COIN.)

(INT. JUKEBOX. THE COIN ROLLS DOWN. CLANGING AND  
BANGING.)

#1

Time to go to work.

(#3 TO COIN.)

#3

It's a 1987 in fine condition.

#2

(yelling up)

What do you kids want to hear?

(EXT. JUKEBOX.)

(MATT AND TANYA EXCHANGE A LOOK.)

TANYA

Song C-7

(INT. JUKEBOX.)

#2

C-7...C-7...who knows C-7?

#1

Don't you know C-7? How did you  
get in this band?

#3

C-7 is pure railroad, pure  
railroad. 1...2...3... hit it.

(INTO SHE'LL BE COMING 'ROUND THE MOUNTAIN.)

(#2 QUICKLY GETS IT AND JOINS IN.)

(INTERCUT: BAND PLAYING KIDS DOING A LITTLE SQUARE  
DANCE. STACY WRITING AT HER DESK AND BOUNCING TO THE  
MUSIC. MR. C. DOING A LITTLE JIG ON TOP OF THE  
SCHEDULE BOARD. IT ENDS WITH THEM ALL APPLAUDING EACH  
OTHER. STACY IS FINISHED AND STANDS BACK TO ADMIRE  
HER WORK.)

STACY

There...what do you think?

MATT

Looks good.

TANYA

Now everyone can see it.

STACY

This way folks will know when  
the trains are leaving and  
where they're going. The  
passengers will read it, and  
they'll learn all the correct  
train schedules.

(ENTER SPIKE FROM WAITING ON THE PLATFORM. HE LOOKS  
OVER THE NEW SCHEDULE.)

STACY

Hello there. Is there a problem?

SPIKE

I'll say. You told me the train  
leaves 20 minutes before the  
hour. This says it leaves 20  
minutes after the hour! What's  
going on here. I have a very  
important appointment in Mount  
Careful and I'm going to miss it  
because of you! People like you  
shouldn't be given responsibility.

STACY

Yes, I gave you the wrong  
information but see, the new train  
will get you there...

SPIKE

I'm going to report this to the  
railroad. You people don't know  
what you're doing.

(SPIKE STORMS OUT.)

STACY

Wait...The new express train will  
get you there faster than  
before...If you'd just take some  
time to read  
this...you'd...see...that...

(HARRY WATCHES FROM HIS DOORWAY.)

HARRY

Matt...Tanya...come on in here...

(THE KIDS LEAVE STACY AND GO INTO HARRY'S WORKSHOP.)

TANYA

What is it Grandpa?

HARRY

Let's plan a little surprise for  
Stacy.

MATT

She's having a bad day.

HARRY  
(reflective)

I'd say she is. No one likes to  
get chewed out.

(MATT AND TANYA EACH GIVE EXAMPLES FROM WHEN THEY WERE  
CHEWED OUT.)



HARRY (cont'd)

This station means a lot to her  
and when good news came along, she  
got a little carried away and  
forgot her responsibilities. We  
all make mistakes. So what do you  
say we do something to cheer her  
up. Any ideas?

TANYA

She said she wanted a band to meet  
the new train.

HARRY

That's a swell idea.

(HE STARTS TO ROOT AROUND IN HIS SCRAP BOX.)

HARRY (cont'd)

Let's see what we can come up  
with...this looks promising...

(MAKING INSTRUMENTS.)

(KIDS APPROACH MR. C. WITH THEIR INSTRUMENTS.)

TANYA

Mr. Conductor! Look what we've  
made, all on our own. We're  
going to be a band.

MR. C.

Instruments! Why, that's down  
right splendid! I'm quite an old  
hand at musical instruments, you  
know.

(NOTICES MATT LOOKING CRITICALLY AT HIS INSTRUMENT.)

MR. C. (cont'd)

Got something on your mind there,  
Matt?

MATT

I don't know if they sound as  
*store bought.*  
good as regular instruments.

MR. C.

Matt my man, let me tell you a  
little something about music. A  
person can make music out of just  
about anything. All you need is a  
*and a little tune*  
little rhythm! Why, did you know  
that with a pair of drumsticks you  
make music on the sidewalk, on a  
building, on a railing...

MATT

On a sidewalk?

MR. C.

Absolutely! And to prove it,

I'll show you!

(ANYTHING DOOR: "EAR RESPONSIBILITY".)

MATT

That was neat. All you need is

a little rhthym.

(MR. C. TAPS OUT A FEW BARS.)

MR. C.

That's right. Now let's go see

Stacy.

(CUT TO STACY BEHIND THE TICKET COUNTER.)

STACY

That passanger who missed his  
train is going to complain to the  
railroad.

MR. C.

People get impatient. It happens  
all of the time. It happens to  
you. It happens to everybody.

It even happens to Thomas...

(HE IS GETTING NO RESPONSE FROM STACY. HE TURNS TO THE  
KIDS.)

MR. C. (cont'd)

"So what happened to Thomas?"

Very well, I shall tell you.

"Please do..."

(INTO THOMAS EPISODE #6 THOMAS AND THE TRUCKS.)

(BACK. STACY'S WARM SMILE HAS RETURNED.)

STACY

Thanks for the story.

MR. C.

Don't mention it.

(HARRY PAUSES OUTSIDE THE WORKSHOP DOOR. HE LOOKS  
ACROSS AT THE SCHEDULE BOARD.)

HARRY (cont'd)

...Stacy did you do that entire  
schedule from memory?

STACY

Most of it. Mr. Conductor and  
Tanya helped me out.

HARRY

Mr. Conductor?

MATT

He's the little guy who lives in  
the wall.

) follow up.

(HARRY ROLLING HIS EYES.)

HARRY

Oh yes, the little guy who lives  
in the wall. I forgot.

(SPIKE REENTERS AND HAS ANOTHER LOOK AT THE SCHEDULE.)

SPIKE

Wait, is this right?

(THE KIDS NOD YES. STACY COMES OVER.)

SPIKE (cont'd)

...you mean I can catch the train  
at 20 after and I can get to Mount  
Careful before the other train  
would have gotten me there?

STACY

Yes. It's the new express that is  
stopping here today.

SPIKE

Well that's wonderful. I won't be  
late. Say what are you up to with  
those instruments.

TANYA

We're going to meet the new train.

MATT

We're going to play for it.

SPIKE

Would you mind if I joined you?

] why?

(THEY SHRUG SURE.)

MATT

Well, sure. I mean, if you'd  
really like to play with us.

SPIKE

Spike Jones

Would I like too? I'd love  
to. I'll be right back...

(HE DASHES ONTO THE PLATFORM AND DASHES BACK. HE IS A  
ONE MAN BAND.)

SPIKE (cont'd)

TaaDaa. (does a little demo.)

There's a one man band convention  
in Mount Careful and I was afraid  
I was going to miss it.

- in the only man

(TO STACY.)

SPIKE (cont'd)

I'm sorry if I spoke harshly. I  
should've taken the time to read  
the schedule.

reverted

STACY

I should've taken the time to get  
it right in the first place.

(HARRY BY THE EXIT.)

HARRY

The new train is pulling in.

(SPIKE DRUMS UP A RACKET AND THE KIDS JOIN IN. THEY  
MARCH TWICE AROUND THE INFO. DESK AND OUT ONTO THE  
PLATFORM.)  
(CUT TO INT. JUKEBOX.)

#1

What was that?

#2

Trains crashing into each other.

#1

Sure it wasn't music?

#2

No, no music is something else.

That's trains crashing into each  
other.

(CUT TO HARRY BY EXIT. HE BENDS OVER AND PICKS UP A  
TINY PIECE OF PAPER. REAL TINY. HE TRIES TO READ  
IT. HAS TO SQUINT. CAN'T MAKE IT OUT.)

HARRY

...A little guy who lives in the  
wall?...

(SHAKES HIS HEAD IN DISBELIEF. HE EXITS.)  
(TRAIN SHADOW PULLS INTO STATION AMID MUSIC AND  
CHEERS.)  
(AND CREDITS. FADE OUT.)